

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /080 W
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R 151522Z JUL 76

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2804

AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1469

E O 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE, GW, UR

SUBJ: JUNE 2 MOVEMENT ESCAPEES IN BERLIN

REFS: A) USBERLIN 1416; B) BONN 11792 (NOTAL); C) USBERLIN 1452
(NOTAL)

1. DURING COURSE OF LONG DISCUSSION MAINLY ON
OTHER BUSINESS JULY 13, BRITISH POLAD, FILLING IN
FOR CHAIRMAN PROTOCOL AND LIAISON OFFICER READ
FOLLOWING AGREED STATEMENT TO SOVIET EMBASSY REP
(TIUTIUNOV):

BEGIN TEXT: AS THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES WILL BE AWARE,
FOUR TERRORISTS ESCAPED FROM THE WOMEN'S PRISON IN
LEHRTERSTRASSE EARLY IN THE MORNING OF 7 JULY. AS
ONE OF THE NECESSARY MEASURES TAKEN TO APPREHEND
THEM, ALLIED AUTHORITIES HAVE AUTHORIZED THE
BERLIN POLICE TO CARRY OUT CERTAIN SEARCHES ON THE
TRAINS IN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN. THERE MAY,
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IN CONSEQUENCE, BE CERTAIN MINOR DELAYS BUT THESE
WILL BE KEPT TO THE ABSOLUTE MINIMUM. END TEXT.

2. TIUTIUNOV RESERVED SOVIET EMBASSY'S RIGHT TO RETURN TO QUESTION LATER BUT CLAIMED, AS AN INITIAL REACTION, THAT POLICE HAD ACTED ILLEGALLY IN ENTERING CERTAIN REICHSBAHN INSTALLATIONS WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM GDR AUTHORITIES. TIUTIUNOV AGREED THAT EVERYONE HAD RIGHT TO TRY TO CATCH TERRORISTS, BUT ADDED THAT REGULATIONS SHOULD NOT BE BROKEN. HE SAID HE WAS NOT OBJECTING TO ACTUAL SEARCHES BUT ONLY THAT ENTRANCE INTO INSTALLATIONS HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT IN IMPROPER FASHION. BRITISH POLAD REMINDED TIUTIUNOV THAT AS SOVEREIGN AUTHORITIES IN OUR SECTORS, ALLIES COULD AUTHORIZE POLICE TO TO ANYWHERE. TIUTIUNOV, WHO MAINTAINED LOW KEY ATTITUDE AND APPEARED DESIROUS TO EXPRESS HELPFUL ATTITUDE, REPEATED HE MIGHT HAVE TO RETURN TO MATTER AGAIN.

3. THIS APPROACH WAS ONE ORIGINALLY ENVISAGED IN REF A. IT WAS INTENDED AS COURTESY INFORMATION TO SOVIETS ABOUT SEARCHES AND AS INDIRECT REBUTTAL OF GDR PROTEST TO SENAT ABOUT ILLEGAL SEARCHES OF REICHSBAHN TRAINS. IT WAS SIMILAR TO APPROACH MADE BY ALLIES TO SOVIETS AT CHAIRMAN PROTOCOL AND LIAISON OFFICER LEVEL (FRENCH) IN MARCH 1975 IN CONNECTION WITH SEARCH OF REICHSBAHN TRAINS WHEN LORENZ WAS KIDNAPPED. MISSIONS DO NOT INTEND, HOWEVER, TO REQUEST SOVIET HELP IN FINDING AND RETURNING ESCAPED PRISONERS AS SUGGESTED BY FRENCH EMBASSY (REF B), AS REPORTED REF C, SENAT HAS ALREADY MADE REQUEST THROUGH POLICE CHANNEL TO GDR AUTHORITIES FOR SUCH ASSISTANCE. GEORGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR, WB, GW
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USBER01469
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: US BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760752/aaaabuaw.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 USBERLIN 1416, 76 BONN 11792 (NOTAL), 76 USBERLIN 1452, (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JUNE 2 MOVEMENT ESCAPEES IN BERLIN
TAGS: PGOV, GE, UR
To: BONN SECSTATE WASHDC BERLIN MOSCOW PARIS NATO LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006